

the Gateway

Vol. 61, No. 10, May 20, 2005, Rhein-Main AB, Germany

USAFE's Best Small Funded Newspaper for 2003



News Brief

Volunteer awards

Several individuals were recognized for giving their time to the community during the Rhein-Main Air Base Volunteer Appreciation Banquet Tuesday in Mörfelden. Winners include:

- Senior Airman Jeremiah Wimer, Individual Volunteer of the Year;
- Christopher Kitterman, Exceptional Youth Volunteer of the Year
- Michelle Wilkinson, Volunteer Excellence Award
- Marianne Denison, Hidden Hero

Memorial Day: Take the time to remember

By Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong
Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (USAFENS) - Each Memorial Day, Americans set aside time to remember and pay homage to the sacrifices of our nation's fallen heroes. These brave young Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines dedicated their last full measure of devotion to service before self in order to preserve our freedom.

From the Civil War to today's military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, these brothers, fathers, sisters and mothers laid down their lives not only for the future of Americans and their families, but to provide freedom and a better way of life for those around the world.

Still today, across the European landscape, you will find proof of the carnage of two world wars. Not far from here in St. Avold, France, is the final

See **Memorial**, Page 3

The Army goes rolling along ...

Capt. Catherine Booth-Calero, 64th Replacement Company executive officer, (far right) leads Soldiers in full battle-rattle on a march from the company's headquarters on Rhein-Main to the base's recreation area, where Soldiers completed a three-day field exercise. For the full story, see page 8.



Photo by Steve Whisman

BRAC:

Information available for affected bases

By Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON - The Secretary of Defense announced the proposed Base Realignment and Closure list during a press conference May 13.

Air Force officials understand the effect BRAC can have on servicemembers, retirees, employees and their families.

To assist people with vital BRAC information, the Air Force will provide a toll-free number, (888) 473-6120, for military and civilian members affected by the BRAC list. Besides the toll-free phone number, the Air Force has an informative BRAC Web page to www.af.mil/brac.

"This number will be available starting May 13 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (EDT) until further notice," said Col. Thomas Fleming, Air Force BRAC response cell director. "We will have trained people from 10 different Air Force organizations to answer or assist with any questions people may have."

Airmen can seek information through their chain of command. They may also contact the public affairs office at their nearest Air Force installation.

BRAC is the congressionally authorized process the Department of Defense uses to reorganize its base structure to more

See **BRAC**, Page 7



USAFE Airman Information File

May 2005

Advanced Education -- You'll Have It Forever!

Advanced education is something near and dear to our hearts. The benefits of advanced education are far reaching and deeply impacting. Education is one of the many factors that make America the greatest nation. The United States ranks number one in the world with the highest number of university students. We also spend more money per student on all levels of education than any other country. These two rankings show the emphasis we place on education -- we realize its value and back it up with our resources.

There are many individual benefits of an advanced education. It develops skills and knowledge in an area of expertise, but it's much broader than this -- it also produces well rounded individuals. Part of the advanced education process is to teach us how to think through problems and where to search for answers. These skills are ultimately more valuable than specific facts we learn in a core area. They can be applied to any area of our life and benefit us no matter what job we move to in the future.

In addition to specific facts and teaching us the process of learning, advanced education exposes us to new and different ideas. We come from different backgrounds and have different approaches to life based on our experiences. As we pursue education, we learn about other cultures, gain new experiences and are able to view things from different perspectives we never would have considered. Oliver Wendell Holmes said, "Man's mind, once stretched by a new idea, never regains its original dimensions." Advanced education expands our horizons -- it widens our intellect.

We place a high importance on advanced education and want to make it as user friendly as possible for everyone in USAFE. We developed the Combat Education program to help every member of the USAFE team take advantage of the benefits of an advanced education. Its goal is to remove the barriers that hinder Airmen from pursuing their educational goals. The military lifestyle and environment we live in isn't always conducive to the pursuit of advanced education. Combat Education eases the burden through innovative and flexible class scheduling. We strive to take the classes to you where you work. The program also increases computer access through Learning Resource Centers throughout USAFE.

Advanced education is a valuable benefit to the individual, to the Air Force and to the nation. Every day is a new opportunity to deepen our knowledge and expand our horizons. The automobile pioneer Henry Ford said, "Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty." Keep learning and stay young -- education is something you'll carry with you forever!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Doc Foglesong".

General Doc Foglesong

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. Coleman".

CMSgt Gary Coleman

"Bring Your Courage"



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Summers

CCAF graduates

Twenty-seven Airmen graduated from the Community College of the Air Force with Associate of Applied Science degrees during the final CCAF graduation at Rhein-Main May 10 in the base chapel annex. Graduates attending included: (back row, left to right) Staff Sgt. Griffith Hemphill, 726th Air Mobility Squadron, Aviation Maintenance Technology; Staff Sgt. Nathan Mainer, 469th Air Base Group Clinic, Allied Health Sciences; Staff Sgt. Harley McCurter, 469th ABG Fire Department, Fire Science; Master Sgt. David Saunders, 469th ABG Security Forces Flight, Criminal Justice; Staff Sgt. Jonathan White, 469th ABG Clinic, Pharmacy Technology; (front row, left to right) Master Sgt. Timothy Anderson, 726th AMS, Avionic Systems Technology; Staff Sgt. Joseph Beymer, 485th Intelligence Squadron, Electronic Systems and Aviation Maintenance Technician; Tech. Sgt. Eric Cone, 469th ABG Commander's Support Staff, Information Management; Staff Sgt. Melissa Daniels, 469th ABG Communications Flight, Information Management; Staff Sgt. Kristin Farmer, 469th ABG Finance Flight, Financial Management, and Master Sgt. Joe Hamilton, 726th AMS, Criminal Justice and Transportation.

Graduates unable to attend included: Master Sgt. Monica Adams, 469th ABG/CSS, Information Management; Staff Sgt. Denisse Miranda, 469th ABG Clinic, Allied Health Science; Tech. Sgt. David Gallagher, 469th ABG Civil Engineer Flight, Disaster Preparedness; Tech. Sgt. Andrew Goodnight, 469th ABG Clinic, Dental Assisting; Master Sgt. Joycelyn Latham, 726th AMS, Logistics; Tech. Sgt. Jenny Luttrell, 469th ABG/SF, Criminal Justice; Master Sgt. James McGee, 469th ABG Family Support Center, Social Science; Staff Sgt. Rodolfo Pacheco, 469th ABG/CEF, Fire Science; Staff Sgt. John Pryhoda, 726th AMS, Avionic Systems Technology; Senior Airman Keldrick Smith, 469th ABG/CEF, Fire Science; Tech. Sgt. Charles Stonestreet Jr., 726th AMS, Transportation; Senior Airman Chad Trickett, Det. 1 2nd Air Postal Squadron, Information Management; Staff Sgt. Sarah Walker, 485th IS, Electronic Systems Technology; Airman 1st Class Eric Watkins, 469th ABG/CEF, Fire Science; Staff Sgt. Joseph Wilson, 726th AMS, Transportation and Tech. Sgt. Mark Wright, 726th AMS, Education and Training and Criminal Justice.

Library goes ... service stays

By 1st Lt. Uriah Orland
Public Affairs

Although the base library in Gateway Gardens closed May 6, residents who like to read or watch a free movie don't have to worry.

Beginning Monday, Our House at the Rhein-Main Family Support Center Annex in Bldg. 627B will check out some books and movies previously offered by the library.

In an effort to continue the intent of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Special Interest Program "Project Wizard", Our House will offer a majority of the DVDs currently at the library, a selection of children's books, "best sellers" and some periodicals.

Rhein-Main residents who want to use these items will need to checkout the items from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday, using a similar process to that used in the library. However, an automated process for checkout will not be used. ID cards will be used to track the names of individuals who check out items.

The books and DVDs may be checked out for up to two weeks for no charge. When military members out process, they will have to process through the FSC and clear their account similar to the process at the library.

For more information about this program, call 330-7913.

MEMORIAL, from Page 1-

resting place for 10,489 U.S. military members who died fighting to liberate that country during World War II. The seemingly endless rows of white headstones, each representing one of our selfless patriots, serve as a reminder of the enormity of America's loss to ensure freedom on the European continent.

Each year across Europe, our friends and allies join us in memorial services over the Memorial Day weekend to pay homage to the memories of America's heroes. I encourage you to take advantage of the unique opportunity to attend one of these ceremonies.

Above all else - please take the time to reflect and remember. Those that have so bravely gone before us lit the torch. It's our responsibility to cherish our freedom and remember what the flame means as we proudly carry it on.

Armed Forces Day message from the top

WASHINGTON – The following is an Armed Forces Day message from Acting Secretary of the Air Force Michael L. Dominguez and Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. John P. Jumper:

“In the first presidential proclamation for Armed Forces Day in 1950, President Truman said the day ‘marks the first combined demonstration by America’s defense team of its progress ... towards the goal of readiness for any eventuality.’

“The theme of that first Armed Forces Day was ‘Teamed for Defense,’ expressing the new unification of all the military forces under a single department of the government -- the Department of Defense.

“Through more than five decades our military members – Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines – have teamed with our civilian partners to build the greatest military in the world. This joint team is ‘Teamed for Defense’ like never before and America’s Airmen are seamlessly integral to our joint force.

“More than 25,000 Airmen – active duty, Guard and Reserve – are deployed supporting operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world. On the ground, in the air and from space, Airmen bring overwhelming air and space power to bear for the joint team, for our nation, and for our allies in the war on terrorism.

“On the ground, our battlefield Airmen serve alongside infantry and special operations units, directly integrating air and

space power. Airmen from 16 different combat support skills are driving trucks, providing convoy security, guarding prisoners and interrogating detainees. Airmen have refocused C-130 Hercules and C-17 Globemaster III airlift missions to reduce the number of convoys on Iraqi roads by nearly 350 trucks a day.

“In space, we’re maintaining the continuous flow of communications, surveillance, precision navigation and targeting for the joint team. At home, we continue flying more than 6,200 sorties annually, ensuring the security of our sky.

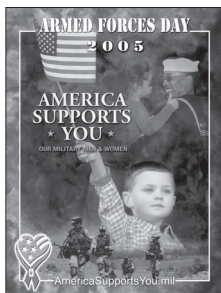
“Airmen are also providing security and stability operations on the Korean peninsula and counterterrorism support in the Horn of Africa. Following the tragic south Asian tsunami, Airmen flew more than 15 million pounds of food, supplies and equipment into the area.

“On this Armed Forces Day, America pays homage to our military men and women who have served and are serving our country so nobly on many fronts. Our Airmen and their families are extraordinarily committed to a cause much greater than themselves.

“If you wear the uniform of the United States military, be proud.- You have earned the respect of a grateful nation. Thank you for your sacrifice, devotion and courage.

“We are honored to serve with you. May God bless each of you, your families and our great nation.”

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)



The Action Line is one way for me to keep my finger on the pulse of the Rhein-Main community and is used as an avenue for communication.

The main objective of the Commander's Action Line is finding solutions to problems or providing explanations for processes.

If you experience problems at Rhein-Main, you should always try to resolve problems at the lowest level by contacting the unit or agency managers. In almost every case, your chain of command is the best solution. I strongly encourage everyone to use that route first. When normal channels haven't been able to resolve your issues, feel free to send an e-mail to Hotline@rheinmain.af.mil or call 330-7779. Please include your name and contact information along with your concern.

Action Lines are forwarded to the appropriate agency for action and response. They should contact you within 24 hours. Once an Action Line is started, the agency must provide a complete answer to me within 10 days.

The 469th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office is responsible for managing the Action Line program on my behalf. If you have any questions, call Public Affairs.



Col. Bradley Denison
Commander, 469th Air Base Group

330-7779

the Gateway

Editorial Staff

Col. Bradley Denison.....Commander
Capt. Stacy Orlovsky.....Chief, Public Affairs
Tech. Sgt. Matt Summers.....Editor
Airman 1st Class Eric Donner.....Staff Writer

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military service overseas. Contents of **the Gateway** are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the public affairs office, Rhein-Main AB, Germany. Printing service is provided by ABC Druck, Liederbach. People may submit articles for publication to the public affairs office, Bldg. 347, Room 139,

or email them to pa@rheinmain.af.mil. Submission by deadline does not guarantee publication, however, all articles will be considered. The staff may be reached by calling 330-7804. All photos are property of the U.S. Air Force unless otherwise noted.

*The deadline for the June 3
edition of the Gateway is
4 p.m. May 26.*

Warriors of the Week



Clifford Wix

Unit: 469th ABG Services Flight
Time working for the Air Force: 23 years
Time at Rhein-Main: 23 years
Duty Title: Services Facility Closure Officer
Hometown: Fairmont, W.Va.
Hobbies: All sports.
What has been your best Air Force experience?
 The opportunity to work for Air Force Services and hopefully to continue working for the Air Force.

469th Air Base Group Services Flight



Tech. Sgt. Wade Washom

Unit: 469th ABG Services Flight
Time in the Air Force: 14 years
Time at Rhein-Main: 16 months
Duty Title: NCOIC, Fitness Center
Hometown: Papillion, Neb.
Hobbies: Baseball, spending time with my kids.
What has been your best Air Force experience?
 Competing in the Air Force Readiness Challenge, a combat-support competition.

Commander recognizes Hidden Heroes

Col. Brad Denison, 469th Air Base Group commander, praised two members of the Rhein-Main community as Hidden Heroes and presented them with coins and certificates during a Hail and Farewell Ceremony May 6 at the Rocket Bowling Center.

Amy Ross, 469th Air Base Group Clinic, and Crystal White, 469th ABG Clinic, were named Hidden Heroes.

Many members of the community recognize Mrs. Ross through her work at the base clinic. Even though she's a TRICARE Medical Service Coordinator, Mrs. Ross puts in extra time to serve the military community.

She gave several after-hours and off-site briefings to retirees, tenant units and other

organizations not located on Rhein-Main.

In spite of Mrs. Ross' busy work schedule, she also finds time to volunteer. She set up and conducted a deployed spouse's support network for Army spouses who have husbands or wives deployed to Iraq. She's also been active in supporting a youth soccer program, providing refreshments, supervision and transportation.

Mrs. White, a health benefits advisor and patient liaison at the clinic, has also gone above and beyond her normal job description.

When a member of Team Rhein-Main was hospitalized for an extended period, she made daily visits to the hospital to coordinate care requirements and explain the medical procedures carried out by

the German staff. Mrs. White also helped the family by babysitting and grocery shopping so the member's wife could spend more time at the hospital.

She has also been involved in several youth center programs.

Hidden Heroes is one of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong's Combat and Special Interest Programs.

The program is designed to identify, recognize and encourage members at USAFE bases to serve as volunteers with base and community agencies.



Amy Ross



Crystal White

Law Day

Base school, law office team 'deliberate' on judicial system

By Capt. Stacy Orlowsky
Public Affairs

More than 100 students from Halvorsen-Tunner American School participated in Law Week hosted by the 469th Air Base Group Legal Office as part of annual worldwide Law Day celebrations.

The Law Day theme this year was 'The American Jury, We the People in Action,' according to Master Sgt. Pamela Bidel, 469th ABG Legal Office.

"It was a chance to bring focus to the jury," said Sergeant Bidel. "And to bring back in everybody's mind that everyone is a potential juror."

The law office decided to turn Law Day into a week of activities for students from kindergarten through eighth grade.

"All of the students were a lot more excited about Law Week than I thought they would be," said Michelle Jones, 469th ABG legal secretary and a main organizer of the Law Day events.

She was amazed at how attentive the students were while receiving the information provided. Members of the law office visited the kindergarten through second grade.

"We went over fact versus opinion using a story of a little boy's bike that was missing," said Sergeant Bidel. "We would give the children examples and have them decide whether it was a fact or a person's opinion."

Third and fourth graders had a chance to win prizes by answer questions about the law, like "How many people can be on a jury?"

"We wanted to focus on ensuring the children understand how they feel personally versus just applying the facts," said Sergeant Bidel.

The biggest events for the week were the trials held by the law office for the fifth and sixth graders and by the seventh and eighth graders themselves.

"It was a day for innocence for the trials," said Sergeant Bidel. "In both the scripted trial for the fifth and sixth graders and the mock trial for the seventh and eighth graders, the accused were found not guilty by the children."

Other events held for the children were a Statue of Liberty coloring contest and a poster contest using this year's theme. Prizes were given to the top three contestants in both categories.

The children weren't the only ones who learned something during the Law Week.

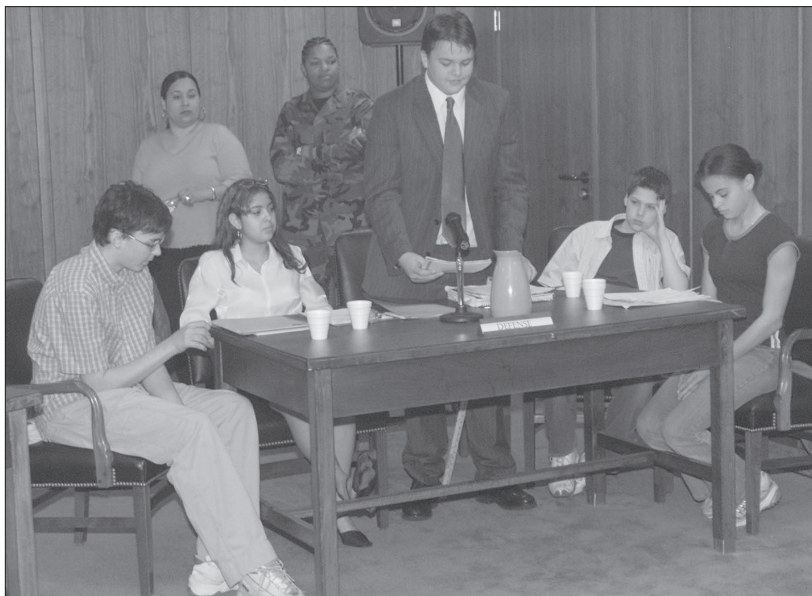


Photo by Airman 1st Class Eric Donner

David Barrenchea, (standing) an 8th grader at Halvorsen-Tunner American School and member of the Law Day mock trial defense team, prepares to address the judge on behalf of his client, 8th grader Jonathan Kirk, (seated, second from right).

"It taught me there are extreme differences people can have hearing the same story," Sergeant Bidel explained. "The children had a fresh take on things. They might come up with a question we didn't even think about before."

This was the first law week both Sergeant Bidel and Ms. Jones have participated in.

However, the first proclamation designating Law Day as May 1 was signed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1958, according to Sergeant Bidel.

In 1961 Congress approved May 1 to be recognized as Law Day and it's practiced every year.

This year's proclamation by President George W. Bush focused on each person taking part in the judicial process if called upon.

The proclamation reads, "By taking time away from their day-to-day responsibilities to serve on juries, Americans demonstrate their commitment to good citizenship and their willingness to uphold the laws of our Nation."

Rumsfeld announces BRAC recommendations

By Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The secretary of defense released the Department of Defense's Base Realignment and Closure recommendations during a press conference May 13.

The recommendations, if fully implemented, will generate an estimated net savings of nearly \$50 billion for DoD over the next two decades, officials said. The Air Force would save an estimated \$2.6 billion through 2011, and a total of \$14.6 billion over the next 20 years.

"The BRAC recommendations announced by the Department of Defense enable us to take full advantage of the expertise of each component of our total force — active duty, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and civilian — as we continue adapting the Air Force to meet the challenges of a dynamic global environment," said Michael Dominguez, acting secretary of the Air Force. "These recommendations strengthen our ability to coordinate, integrate and operate as part of the joint warfighting team, but I also know they will significantly (affect) many people in the Air Force and in communities around these bases. We're committed to providing all the help we can to work through this together."

This list of recommended Air Force closures included five active-duty and

seven reserve component installations.

They are:

- Air Force Research Laboratory Mesa, Ariz.
- Brooks City-Base, Texas.
- Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.
- Ellsworth AFB, S.D.
- General Mitchell Air Reserve Station, Wis.
- Kulis Air Guard Station, Alaska.
- Mansfield-Lahm AGS, Ohio.
- Niagara ARS, N.Y.
- Onizuka Air Force Station, Calif.
- Otis Air National Guard Base, Mass.
- Pittsburgh ARS, Pa.
- W.K. Kellogg AGS, Mich.

The purpose of the DoDs recommendations is to make the most efficient and effective use of all the department's resources, to improve operational efficiency, to save taxpayer dollars, to advance transformation and enhance the combat effectiveness of the military forces, officials said.

These recommendations will not be implemented until after hearings and review by the BRAC commission, approval by the president and congress sometime in November.

Additionally, 62 Air Force installations face varying levels of realignment under the DoD proposal. For the complete list, visit www.af.mil/brac.

Two major realignments include:

■ Eielson Air Force Base — The installation will lose 2,821 military and 319 civilians and gain no military and no civilians for a total loss of 2,821 military and 319 civilians.

The Air Force recommends moving assigned A-10 aircraft to Barksdale AFB, La. (three aircraft); to a new active duty unit at Moody AFB, Ga., (12 aircraft); and to backup inventory (three aircraft). Eielson AFB moves assigned F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft to Nellis AFB, Nev. (18 aircraft). The Air National Guard tanker unit and rescue alert detachment will remain as tenant on Eielson.

This action is part of a larger effort to consolidate the F-16 fleet.

■ Eglin Air Force Base — The installation will lose 28 military and 42 civilians and gain 2,168 military and 120 civilians for a total gain of 2,140 military and 78 civilians.

The DoD recommends realigning Luke Air Force Base, Ariz.; Sheppard AFB, Texas; Miramar Marine Corps Air Station, Calif.; Naval Air Station Oceana, Va.; and NAS Pensacola, Fla., to create a joint strike force initial joint training site.

The move includes instructor pilots, operations support personnel, maintenance instructors, maintenance technicians, and other associated personnel and equipment to Eglin.

BRAC, from Page 1

efficiently and effectively support its forces, increase operational readiness and facilitate new ways of doing business.

"People are our most valuable asset; and though BRAC is a careful and impartial analysis, people will be affected," Colonel Fleming said. "We care about our people, and we want to keep our people informed and provide them the best possible information on the changes that will affect them."

The Air Force Web page will have a breakdown of affected bases from the BRAC list, said Jeff Whitted, Air Force Print News operations division chief.

"We will also have links to frequently asked questions, news articles, and DoD and Air Force information concerning BRAC,"

he said. "As we receive new information, we will post it to this page."

Local communities surrounding these installations will also be affected. Communities can address their concerns with the President's Commission at regional BRAC commission meetings or by contacting the commission at (703) 699-2950 for more information. Phone hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. EDT, Mondays through Fridays.

The BRAC process will take months to be finalized. The secretary of defense's BRAC recommendations are not final. The President's BRAC Commission will review the list for conformity with the Office of the Secretary of Defense's force structure plan and published selection criteria and report its findings and conclusions to the president by Sept. 8.

Army unit 'goes to the field' for training

By Airman 1st Class Eric Donner
Public Affairs

Fifty-eight soldiers of the 64th Replacement Company at Rhein-Main conducted a three-day field deployment exercise at the base recreation area May 4 - 6. The exercise was part of the training required to keep soldiers ready to deploy and to refresh their memories on proper procedures.

"The three-day exercise was very basic," said Capt. Catherine Booth-Calero, 64th Replacement Company executive officer. "We focused on the basic soldiering skills with an emphasis on security and dealing with different situations."

The scope of the exercise took place on a much smaller scale than other Army exercises. Most exercises have more soldiers and facilities to support a larger scope. In addition to the lack of facilities, the 64th RC has a real-world job that could not stop while they trained, so most of the training and classes took place after duty hours. The after-hours training included set-up of a field kitchen, training areas and tents.

The Army had to maintain the integrity and security of the recreation area not only as part of the exercise, but also to protect the Army assets from real world threats.

The classes covered convoy formations and protection, nuclear, biological and chemical readiness and how to detect improvised explosive devices. Also included in the training was perimeter security and internal security.

"A lot of the situations (in the exercise) you don't go through



Photo by Steve Whisman

Staff Sgt. Delmar Reed (background, far left) and Spc. Seth Schrum (background, middle), 64th Replacement Company, conduct training on convoy defense measures during the company's three-day training exercise May 4 - 6. The company continued its real-world mission and trained after normal duty hours.

everyday," said Pfc. Nikkia Davis, chemical operation specialist. "This gave us a chance to learn about IED's. It really helped out," she added.

The classes were not just simply sitting in mass briefing about situations that could happen. It also allowed soldiers a chance for hands-on experience. The convoy course for example, was surprised when it was put into a mock ambush.

"The exercise prepares the younger soldiers from basic and advanced individual training an opportunity to see what a deployment is like and to learn from the veterans who work here," said Captain Booth-Calero.

"The soldiers here will not deploy, but when they move to other bases they may have a chance to. This exercise will help them with future deployments," she added.

The exercise was not only to train the young soldiers but also the leadership, according to Captain Booth-Calero.

"The commander said he 'wanted to go to the field' and from that information, we put the exercise together with the guidance of Major Jerry Wood, 64th Replacement Company commander," she said. "We had to make sure all the timelines were set, the different sections were prepared and the Soldiers were ready - the planning and organization with the exercise gave the staff some experience to help with the move to Hanau."

"The exercise went very well," she said. "The soldiers started and maintained good attitudes through the whole exercise," she added.

"With a lot of real world type (exercises) it will help with general experiences and in the future," said Pvt. Micah Wood, human resource specialist.



Photo by Steve Whisman

Soldiers of the 64th Replacement Company at Rhein-Main prepare tactical vehicles for the short ride to the base's recreation area in preparation for field training.



Closure Corner

This section is devoted to giving the Rhein-Main Community the most up-to-date information concerning base closure issues. All dates presented in this section are subject to change based on: manpower figures, personnel assignment information and ongoing U.S. Air Forces in Europe coordination.

Q: When will passport services end?

A: Passport services at the CSS will end June 30. Applications for changes, replacements or new additions will not be accepted after June 15. After this date, personnel will have to visit the Ramstein Military Personnel Flight to process new applications. The Frankfurt Consulate will not accept personal walk-ins. Military members need to make sure their family member's passports will be current through their PCS date. If the passports will expire any time during the year, it's recommended to submit a new application. The turnaround time for replacement passports is four to eight weeks.

Q: Where can I find more information about passport services?

A: You can visit the 469th Air Base Group Commander's Support Staff or log on to <https://www.mil.ramstein.af.mil/435abw/435msg/435mss/homepage1/dmpmsp.htm>.

Q: What should I do if I have an after hours dental emergency?

A: After hours emergency care

is available at Darmstadt. Call the military police desk at 348-7777 or commercial 06151-69-7777.

Q: Will there be any type of dental sick call after the clinic closes?

A: Dental sick call for active duty and family members will be at Darmstadt after June 30. Sick call hours are 7:30 - 10 a.m. Mondays - Wednesdays and Fridays; 12:30 - 3 p.m. Thursdays in Bldg. 4087 on Cambrai - Fritsch Kaserne. Patients will receive acute care for pain, trauma, bleeding or swelling. Members will need to pick up their dental records from the Rhein-Main medical facility, Bldg. 340 on the main base, before reporting to sick call. For more information, call 348-7310.

Q: When will pharmacy services stop?

A: All refills must be done prior to June 30. Customers can receive a 90-day supply to cover them through their PCS move. Personnel should request a PCS refill at least seven days prior to their final-out appointment. Individuals staying past September may want to consider using the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy service or request that prescription refills be transferred to a local Army military treatment facility.

Q: Do I have to contact the TRICARE office before PCSing or will coverage

transfer automatically?

A: Members must stop by the TRICARE office to disenroll and must stop by their new TRICARE Service Center to enroll. If a member outprocesses after July 5, they should visit the clinic in Bldg. 340 from 10 a.m. - noon or 3 - 4 p.m. Mondays - Fridays.

Q: Is there anything else I should know about outprocessing from the clinic?

A: Medical and dental records must be picked up one day prior to a member's final outprocessing appointment. Adult family member records require a consent form for the sponsor to pick up.

Q: I don't PCS until December. How long can I stay in housing?

A: For personnel PCSing after Oct. 15, directed/scheduled move outs will begin Sept. 15. Families or individuals can remain in on-base units as long as possible, but no later than Oct. 15. Move-out dates will be coordinated within each stairwell. After an acceptable final inspection clearance, BAH is authorized for off-base lodging through a PCS date. The busiest timeframe for the traffic management office looks to be between June and August.

Q: Will there be any type of pre-inspection?

A: Housing pre-inspections should be scheduled 30 days prior to move out. This is a walk-thru with a housing inspector to clearly outline final inspection criteria and expectations.

DUI/DWI Tracker

Days without DUIs (As of Tuesday)

469th Air Base Group
218 days
726th Air Mobility Squadron
101 days
64th Replacement Company
366 days

Tenant Units
150 days
Others
293 days

The 469th ABG Top IV provides a

fund at the main gate for permanent party personnel who take a taxi back to the base instead of driving while intoxicated.

The money used must be reimbursed the next duty day.

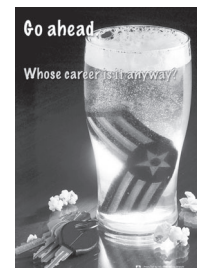




Photo by Airman 1st Class Eric Donner

Roof!

Jorg Baar, Pacific Architects and Engineers "A" team, (right) puts up a monster block against John Gullingsrud, 726th Air Mobility Squadron "B" team, in intramural volleyball post-season play Wednesday. The 726th AMS "B" team won 25-11 and 25-23. The team then defeated the 726th AMS "A" team 25-9, 25-21 to advance to the finals of the losers' bracket. At press time, three teams – 469th Air Base Group Communications Flight, 469th ABG Clinic and the 726th AMS "B" team – were still in the running for the final intramural volleyball crown in the history of Rhein-Main. Look for coverage of the winners in the June 3 Gateway.

Sports briefs

Softball season

The final intramural softball season in the history of Rhein-Main is set to kick off Tuesday with a single-elimination, pre-season tournament at the fitness center field.

Nine teams will compete in the final season which begins May 31. They include: 469th Air Base Group; 469th ABG Security Forces Flight; ETC from Mainz-Kastel; 64th Replacement Company; 726th Air Mobility Squadron A and B teams; Lufthansa; Marine Corps; and the Consulate.

Each team will play an eight-game regular season schedule on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. A double-elimination, post season tournament will follow.

Teams can schedule one-hour practice times at either the fitness center field or the field near the transportation roundhouse by calling 330-7151.

FRAPORT run

The 4th Annual FRAPORT Run is scheduled for 7 p.m. June 10 at the InterCity Hotel.

Runners can choose from a 5K or 10K course. Cost is 10 euro and all the proceeds go to charity. Sign up deadline is May 31.

The run is open to all full-time employees at Rhein-Main. There will be free brats and beverages after the race.

Several prizes will be given out during the event and all finishers have the chance to win the super prize – a new car.

A raffle will also take place with prizes such as airline tickets. Registration forms are available at the 469th ABG Public Affairs Office in Bldg. 347.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Summers

Swing batta'

Noah Bishop, son of Staff Sgt. Peter Bishop, 726th Air Mobility Squadron, and Pia Bishop, gets ready to crush the ball for the Rhein-Main Gators in coach-pitch action Saturday. More than 80 Rhein-Main youth are taking part in the final baseball season in the history of the base.

Federal employment

The family support center sponsors a "10 Steps to Federal Employment," class from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday in the FSC classroom in Bldg. 347.

Participants can learn how to get a foot in the civil service door.

Call 330-7992 to sign up.

Moving, money

The FSC staff conducts a "Moving and Your Money," class from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Wednesday at Our House, Bldg. 627B-2 in Gateway Gardens.

Participants can get answers to many of their PCS money questions while learning how to plan ahead and spend wisely.

Call 330-7992 to sign up.

PCS childcare

The Rhein-Main Child Development Center has hourly care spaces for children 6 months to 5 years of age.

Call the CDC at 330-7017 for more information.

Lunch in Limburg

The FSC sponsors a spouse appreciation trip to Limburg for a free lunch May 27.

Although the trip is planned for school hours, 8:25 a.m. to 2:15 p.m., parents

should make alternate plans for their children in the event the bus is caught in a stau. Participants should meet at the shoppette at 8:20 a.m.

A 20 euro returnable deposit is required to reserve a seat.

Call 330-7992 to sign up.

Commissary closure

The commissary is closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The commissary will be open May 30 for Memorial Day.

Bible study

"The Purpose Driven Life - 40 days of Purpose" Bible study is scheduled for Thursdays at the base chapel annex.

The "Shape" group meets at 6 p.m. and the new study group meets at 7 p.m.

For more information, call 330-7501.

Commissary jobs

The commissary has part time openings, 24 hours a week, for students.

Apply at www.chrma.hquusareur.army.mil.

Scholarship winner

Congratulations to Chris Kitterman, son of Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Dennis Kitterman, 469th Air Base Group Chapel, and Cecilia Kitterman, who received a scholarship from the Defense Commissary Agency as part of its Scholarships for Military Children Program.

Caslot sale

The base commissary will participate in a worldwide caslot sale May 28-29.

Customers can save up to 60 percent on more than 130 products to include: salad dressings, cookie mixes, canned goods, pasta sauces, cereals, household products, microwave meals, soups, diapers, fruit drinks, popcorn and pet products.

Craft time

The FSC sponsors a "Travel Time Kids Stationery Craft," class from 3 - 4:30 p.m. June 1 at Our House.

Children will craft stationery portfolios with travel themes. The portfolio is

Movies at Rhein-Main

Tonight - "The Ring 2," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Saturday - "Ice Princess," (G), 5 p.m. and "Amityville Horror," (R), 7:30 p.m.

Sunday - "Be Cool," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Tuesday - "Star Wars Episode III," (PG-13), 7 p.m. The ticket booth will open at 4:30 p.m. for advance ticket sales.

Wednesday - "Star Wars Episode III," (PG-13), 7 p.m. The ticket booth will open at 4:30 p.m. for advance ticket sales.

May 27 - "Million Dollar Baby," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

May 28 - "Robots," (PG), 5 p.m., and "Hostage," (R), 7:30 p.m.

May 29 - "A Lot Like Love," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Movies and times are subject to change.

Movie schedules for local communities

can be found at

www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp

a creative way for children to keep in touch with their friends when they get to their next base.

Call 330-7992 to sign up.

Beat the closure blues

The 469th Air Base Group Clinic Life Skills Office conducts a "Beat the Closure Blues" seminar from 2 - 3 p.m. June 2 in the clinic conference room.

For questions or to sign-up for the classes, call 330-4211.

Buchenwald trip

The FSC sponsors a trip to the site of the former Buchenwald Concentration Camp June 4.

One of the largest camps in Germany, more than 230,000 prisoners from 30 countries passed through Buchenwald from 1937 to 1945. More than 43,000 didn't survive.

The bus leaves from the parking lot of Bldg. 347 at 6 a.m., from the shoppette at 6:15 a.m. and returns at 10 p.m.

Visit the FSC in the basement of Bldg. 347 to sign up. A 20 euro returnable deposit is required at the time of sign up.

Chapel schedule

The following worship opportunities are offered by the Rhein-Main Chapel:

■ Catholic worship:

Sunday Mass - 9 a.m. every Sunday.

Chapel fellowship - 10 a.m.

CCD - 10:30 a.m.

■ Protestant worship:

Sunday School - 9 a.m.

Chapel fellowship - 10 a.m.

Worship and Kids Own Church take place every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.



Fuel farm juggles flying, closure missions

By Airman 1st Class Eric Donner
Public Affairs

Closure is just around the corner.

The base has started closing facilities in preparation to hand them over to the German government. The Pacific Architects and Engineers fuels section and its fuel tanks are one unit starting to clean-up and shut down for closure.

"The fuel farm has tanks ranging in size from 10,000 to 2.1 million gallons," said Tech. Sgt. Christina Scampitilla, 469th Air Base Group Logistics Flight fuels quality assurance evaluator.

The tanks were installed between 1974 and 1977. The 30-year-old tanks have pumped 6.6 million gallons of fuel since January, the highest in U.S. Air Forces in Europe. Now, after years of service and millions of gallons pumped, the tanks are beginning to close.

The closure of a small number of tanks will not hurt the ability for Rhein-Main to sustain the current mission, according to Sergeant Scampitilla. PAE receives fuel from Idar-Oberstein via an underground pipeline approximately 120 kilometers long.

To clean a tank the fuel must first be drained. The time needed to empty a tank varies according to the size. A 2.1-million gallon tank, the largest tank at Rhein-Main, at maximum issue rate is emptied in approximately 23 hours, according to Sergeant Scampitilla.

Once the tank is empty, it must be isolated from the pipeline and other tanks in the fuels system, and then ventilated for 24 hours, according to Master Sgt. Fred Miller, 469th ABG Civil Engineer Flight liquid fuels quality assurance evaluator.

Two systems are required for removing fuel vapors – open air



Photo by Airman 1st Class Eric Donner

Col. Brad Denison, 469th Air Base Group commander, (left) and Master Sgt. Fred Miller, 469th ABG Civil Engineer Flight, check out the pumphouse at the Rhein-Main Fuel Farm during a tank closure inspection Tuesday.

ventilation and forced ventilation using an exhaust fan. Before crews enter the tank, a Bacharach SH device is used to test the air for vapor concentrations. When the air is safe, work on the inside begins, according to Sergeant Miller.

Crews then enter the tank to remove any sludge – pieces of dirt or tank scales – from the bottom of the tank and dispose of it. Once the majority of the sludge is removed, crews switch to high-pressure sprayers with soap and water to remove any remaining dirt and fuel residue.

The final step of cleaning is drying and final removal of dirt from the tanks, said Sergeant Miller.

"The tanks sides are dried with squeegees and rags before they are

inspected and turned over to the German government," he said.

But, before the tanks are turned over to the German government when the base closes, they must be inspected by the TÜV, a German organization that makes sure companies or military organizations meet the government's environmental, building codes and other codes and requirements set by the government.

The whole process, from start to finish, takes about three to five days to complete, said Sergeant Scampitilla.

The closure plan for the fuels section is to have the last tank emptied in October – after the flying mission stops – and be ready for a turnover before base closure in December, she added.



The Final Chapter

This section is devoted to the history and legacy of Rhein-Main and how this storied installation will close with grace and dignity. Look for stories on the history of the base, units stationed here and how the closure of facilities affect the mission. Rhein-Main, the "Final Chapter".